A Community Resource for Employment, Education and Enrichment

Spring/Summer 2010

Volume 13 • Issue 1

CareerFocus™

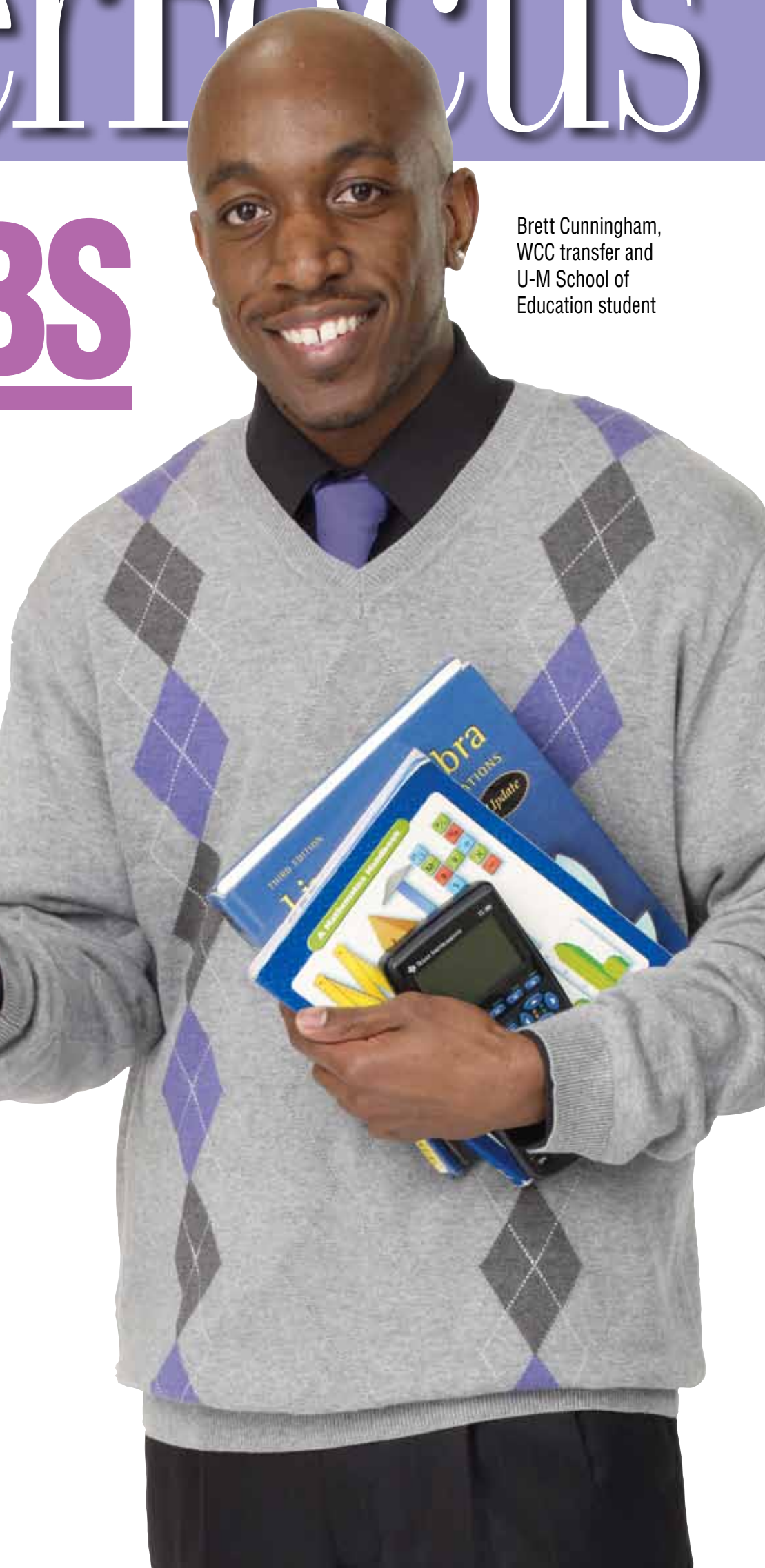
Michigan JOBS
What's hot and what's not

Local Business
equals big opportunities

Help Others
and build your resume

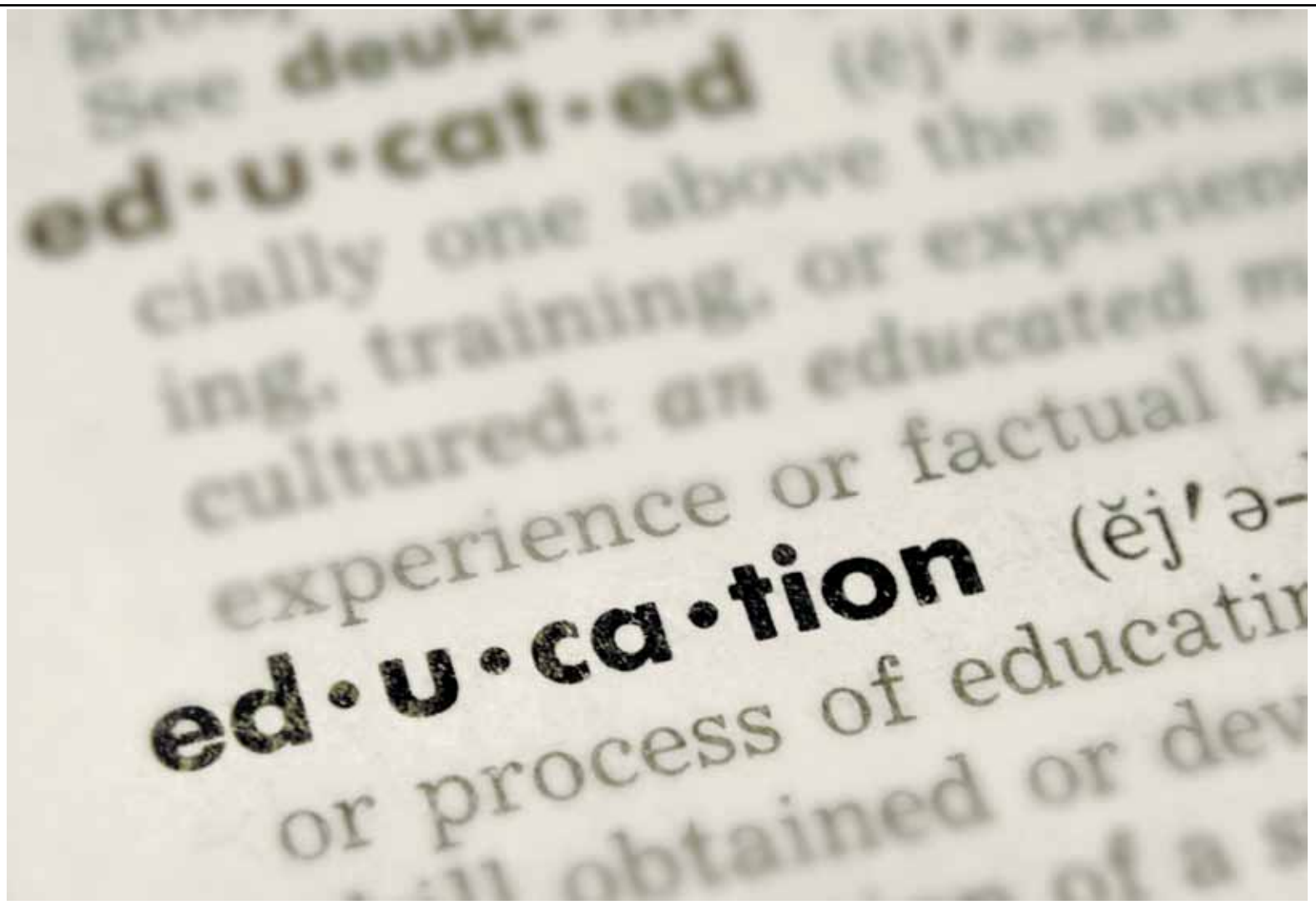
Tired of school?
Try a GAP YEAR

Ten Years and Ten Trends
that shaped the way we work



Brett Cunningham, WCC transfer and U-M School of Education student

Washtenaw Community College



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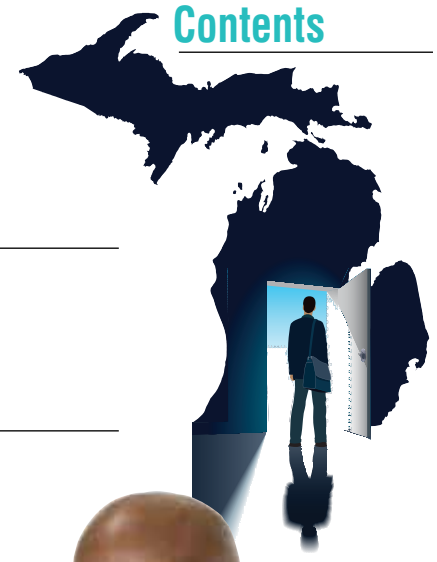
CareerFocus™

Contents



Features

3 **Good for Others, Good for You**
Volunteering can boost job hunters' skills–and mood

CAREER WATCH

4 **Small is the Next Big Thing**
Will local businesses provide the jobs of the future?

6 **Finding the Bright Spots in the Michigan Economy**

6 **Say Yes to Knowledge**
In Michigan, education will shape the economy
STUDENT PROFILE
Brett Cunningham–Making a difference in the community

8 **Hype or Hope**
Are green jobs going to turn this economy around?
STUDENT PROFILE
James Smalley–Betting on a greener economy

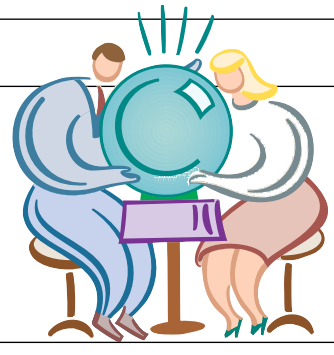
10 **From Assembly Line to Dream Factory**
Movies take a shine to Michigan
STUDENT PROFILE
Amanda Rivera–A career in digital video

12 **Down, Not Out**
Automotive and manufacturing careers in Michigan won't disappear
STUDENT PROFILE
Jason Crook–Investing in the future of manufacturing and Michigan

14 **Tired of School? Try Life**
Maybe you need a gap year to energize your dreams

16 **Top 10 Career Trends of the Decade**
Workwise, the 21st century started out with a shudder

In Every Issue



2 FACTS AND FINDS
- Jobs on the Rise
- Must College Prepare You for a Job?
- Careers of Tomorrow
- Don't Gamble Your Future

WCC SCHOOLS

17 **Where Are You Going?**

On the cover: Transfer student Brett Cunningham is now studying at U-M to become a math teacher

Facts and Finds

Jobs on the Rise

Of course the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has something to say about the jobs of the future, that's what they do after all. According to reports issued in November 2009, the top ten fastest growing occupations for the years 2008 through 2018 are those listed below.

Each occupation is listed along with its required education level and level of pay: VH = very high, $51,540 or more; H = high, $32,390 to $51,530; L = low, $21,590 to $32,380; and VL = very low, under $21,590.

1. Biomedical engineers	Bachelor's degree	VH
2. Network systems and data communications analysts	Bachelor's degree	VH
3. Home health aides	Short-term on-the-job training	VL
4. Personal and home care aides	Short-term on-the-job training	VL
5. Financial examiners	Bachelor's degree	VH
6. Medical scientists	Doctoral degree	VH
7. Physician assistants	Master's degree	VH
8. Skin care specialists	Post-secondary vocational award	L
9. Biochemists and biophysicists	Doctoral degree	VH
10. Athletic trainers	Bachelor's degree	H

"Occupation and Employment Projections to 2018" Monthly Labor Review, Nov. 2009 www.bls.gov

Facts AND Finds

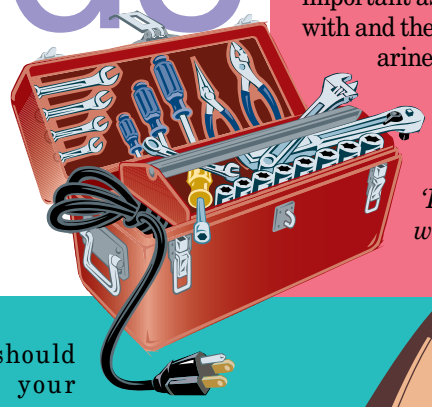
Must College Prepare You for a Job?

As college becomes a necessary first step toward a solid career, students want assurance that their studies will result in a job offer after graduation.

More students today want to prepare for a specific career rather than get a broad liberal arts education. That's why majors such as philosophy, classics and French are in decline and enrollment in biology and chemistry are up.

But career counselors caution against narrowing studies too soon. "Students think too much about majors. But the major isn't nearly as important as the toolbox of skills you come out with and the experiences you have," says Katharine Brooks, director of the liberal arts career center at the University of Texas, Austin.

Source: "Making College 'Relevant'" Dec. 29, 2009 at www.nytimes.com



Don't Gamble Your Future

How much should you pay for your education?

That question is an important part of the equation for the majority of students who take out student loans to finance college. There's nothing worse than discovering that your shiny new college degree resulted in more debt and less income than you'd dreamed.

The People Capital Web site offers a tool to help you determine how much you can expect to earn in your future career–and therefore how much you can comfortably repay. This "human capital score" is based on your major, college, test scores and GPA.

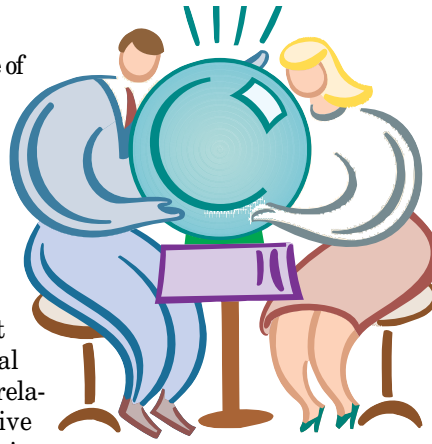
Try it for yourself at humancapitalscore.com.

Careers of Tomorrow

The future is always unknowable and unpredictable, but that never stops anyone from trying to see what lies ahead.

Experts everywhere attempt to predict what the jobs of the future will be so that we can prepare for them today. If you're going to invest time and money into preparing for a career, it would be nice to know where the opportunities are.

Today many prognosticators see a slow recovery for the economy, taking at least five years for the overall unemployment rate to fall below five percent. And they see a workforce that's strongly divided between good paying professional jobs and poor-paying service jobs.



Economic experts warn us that some of the good jobs of the past have disappeared and will never return. Jobs in manufacturing, construction, office administration and finance just aren't going to be as plentiful as they were in the past.

And they predict that many existing occupations will have to adapt to new trends. For example, social networking will transform public relations and marketing; alternative energy will create a new a niche in engineering; heathcare and finance will both put more emphasis on risk management; and technology will continue to change nearly everything it touches.

Looking even farther into the future, some visionaries have predicted the new careers that will exist in 2030. Among the job titles your grandkids may hold: space pilot, vertical farmer, climate change reversal specialist, weather modification police and memory augmentation surgeon.

Read more at:

"Where The Jobs Will Be In This Decade" Jan. 4, 2010 www.npr.org

"Best Careers 2010" www.usnews.com

"Landing a Job of the Future Takes a Two-Track Mind" Dec. 28, 2009 online.wsj.com

"Even in a Recovery Some Jobs won't Return" Jan. 12, 2010 online.wsj.com

"Jobs of 2030" www.fastcompany.com CF

Good for Others, Good for You

Volunteering can boost job hunters' skills–and mood

By Vickie Elmer

After two layoffs in the financial field, Brian Welch decided to move into healthcare because it seemed more stable and secure. So he volunteered his way into a job at a major hospital, and along the way, he built up his expertise, his confidence and his network.

"Volunteering will open up your social networks and open up your eyes to other opportunities," says Greg Baldwin, president of VolunteerMatch, which connects individuals to volunteer opportunities at more than 74,000 nonprofit groups. "It's a great way to meet new people and get connected to ideas."

"Volunteering will open up your social networks and open up your eyes to other opportunities. It's a great way to meet new people and get connected to ideas."

And for jobseekers, whether they're recent graduates or mid-career professionals, volunteer work offers many positives. Not only will it fill time, it will fill your resume with valuable experience.

More than 63 million Americans, one-quarter of all adults, volunteered in 2009. Most people in a 2006 VolunteerMatch-sponsored survey say they do it to help others or a cause they care about. But one-third of volunteers want to use their skills and experience, and one-fourth say they seek intellectually stimulating assignments.

Grow your skills

Besides those benefits, regular volunteering gives job seekers something intriguing to say when an interviewer asks what they've done in the months since graduation or their layoff.

Welch, 34, was laid off in December 2007 as a senior direct marketing associate for HSBC bank. He started job hunting, but that didn't fill his days. "I didn't want to sit at home and do nothing," he says. Instead, he sought mental stimulation, a chance to learn new skills and a new industry.

He volunteered first for a team of professionals producing a magnet school's Web site. Then, he wrote to a dozen healthcare organizations offering to work for free in marketing or communications. Last May, he started as a volunteer associate at The University of Chicago Medical Center three days a week. He used his project management strengths, but also took on new assignments in the marketing department. "I did whatever was asked of me," says Welch.

Nonprofits often seek volunteers with professional skills to serve as business mentors, assist with Web development, IT, marketing or communications, grant writing and more. There are thousands of choices, so before you pick one, consider these pointers:

- **Carefully choose where to volunteer.** "First and foremost, find an organization or cause you really care about," says VolunteerMatch's Baldwin, for your passion will fuel your commitment to the volunteer work. Pick one that will look good on your resume. Avoid controversial groups and aim at those that may connect you to job openings. Business groups, community groups, professional organizations and nonprofits related to children or pets are good choices. Another approach: Research target companies to see which charities they actively support; then sign up there. You may end up on a committee with future coworkers.
- **Choose an assignment for career goals.** Bypass those fold newsletters or fill plates requests. To add specific experience to your resume, look for a volunteer assignment that plays to your professional strengths, or builds new skills. Some volunteers call themselves pro-bono consultants because they're volunteering services that are equal to their professional responsibilities.

  "Look for the specific opportunity that has skills you have or want to develop," says Baldwin. And look too for a supervisor or an environment that will assist and encourage your learning.
- **Be clear about your objectives.** When you begin a volunteer assignment, tell your supervisor what you want, whether it's new skills, a strong recommendation, or a shot at the next full-time opening in the department. Indicate what kind of job you're seeking–and enlist them in your search. Also be clear about the time commitment you're making.

It's a good feeling

Remember, too, that volunteering can yield intangibles such as increased confidence, a sense that your skills still matter and new friends and supporters. People who volunteer also experience higher personal well-being, Gallup surveys found.

Welch found volunteering helped him avoid feeling blue. He targeted organizations he thought could be future employers, but he also made it clear that he was actively seeking full-time work. So when he had to miss an afternoon to go to a job interview, one of his supervisors often said, "For your sake, I hope it works out. For ours, I hope it doesn't."

Volunteering in your field can give you an edge over other candidates. "It definitely matters. We don't distinguish between paid work and unpaid work generally," says Tracie Spinale, the Smithsonian Institution's academic program manager who helps hire 1,300 interns a year.

Many other employers also give volunteers extra points. Says VolunteerMatch's Baldwin: "We've never hired anybody who didn't put volunteering on their resume. And we're not alone." CF

Career Watch

Small is the Next BIG Thing

Will local businesses provide the jobs of the future?

By Laura L. Crawford

Should you think small when you're looking for your next job?

After all small, local businesses create up to 80 percent of the new jobs in the U.S. They may be more resistant to recessions, often laying off fewer employees overall than their corporate counterparts. In past recessions, small businesses jump-started the recovery and began hiring before large companies did. Karen Mills, the head of the Small Business Administration, predicts that small businesses will lead the U.S out of this recession too.

Instead of sending a resume out to the local division of XYZ Corporation, it might make sense to take a walk down Main Street, and consider the opportunities. CF

Is Local Better?

In the last few years buy local campaigns have been appearing in small towns and large cities alike. Slogans like, "Buy local or bye-bye local" encourage shoppers to spend their dollars with businesses already rooted in the community.

"Local businesses can fill needs in the community that otherwise aren't being met."

But does it really make a difference if consumers buy from local farmers, retailers and service providers rather than head out to the big box stores, malls and franchises?

A number of recent studies in communities from Austin, Tex. to Washington State to Chicago, Ill. have shown that healthy local business really do boost local economies by circulating more money locally, and supporting the jobs, infrastructure and tax base that keep an economy healthy.

National corporations tend to send profits off to headquarters elsewhere rather than keep them circulating in the community. Several studies have shown that shopping at local businesses will retain from 50 percent to four times more money in the local economy than shopping at a national chain will.

Not just the economy

Vibrant small businesses keep communities strong in other ways too says Ingrid Ault, director of Think Local First, a network of small businesses in Ann Arbor, Mich. Because they're small, adaptable and uniquely familiar with their community's needs,"Local businesses can fill needs in the community that otherwise aren't being met," she says.

And because locally-owned businesses are rooted in the community, they're more likely to really care about providing good service, says Ault.

Locally-produced goods can be more sustainable too because of less transportation and better use of resources.

Local businesses are also more likely to give back to the community, says Ault. In fact, they contribute to local charities over twice as much as national chains do.

Michael Shuman, author of *The Small-Mart Revolution* also points to studies that show strong local economies create strong local communities, with better social stability, less poverty and more political participation.

Local and global

Shuman believes many communities have made a mistake trying to build their economies on national businesses that have no stake in them.

"There will be no (economic) recovery unless it's focused locally," he says.

But he adds that a strong local economy doesn't mean local businesses have to stay small or can't participate in the larger global economy also. "Local businesses can grow too," he says. "Dumb local is the fantasy that you can create a self-sufficient island apart from the rest of the world.

"Smart local nurtures businesses that can reach out globally too, rather than trying to entice non-local businesses to move to town." CF

Are Local Jobs Good Jobs?

Practically any job you'll find in a large corporation, you'll also find at a small business. In fact, The Small Business Association indicates that small businesses employ over half of all private sector employees, hire 40 percent of high tech workers and make up 97.3 percent of all exporters, producing just over 30 percent of the nation's export value.

And there are good reasons to seek out small businesses when you're job hunting.

"There's more opportunity for growth in a small business," says author and economist Michael Shuman. "You'll work closer with the managers, you'll probably have a wider variety of responsibilities and more opportunity to shape the future of the company." A potential downside is that some small business–but certainly not all–pay less or offer fewer benefits. But, says Shuman, "The gap has been closing in the past few years and soon may disappear."

"There are three areas in which shifting dollars to the local economy can make a huge impact. These are food, finance and energy," he says. By producing these important products and services closer to home, jobs are created and local economies grow stronger.

Local character

"Small businesses create a community's unique identity and give it character" says Charles Penner, regional director of the Michigan Small Business Technology Development Center hosted by WCC and located in Ypsilanti, Mich.

"People are realizing that small businesses and non-profits are what make their communities unique. It's not the chain stores and restaurants that everyone else has.

"People realize that if they don't support these businesses, they won't be there. They value the personal touch; they want to know where their food is coming from, and know the people they're buying from."

Communities need a mix of local and national businesses, says Penner. Nurturing diverse local businesses creates a strong economic base. "Areas that become too dependent on a single industry risk collapse if that industry fails," he notes. A point that's become painfully obvious in the state of Michigan. CF

You, a Business Owner?

If you aren't finding the right job, maybe it makes sense to create your own.

"Just because the economy is bad, doesn't mean it's a bad time to start a business," says Charles Penner, regional director of the Michigan SBTDC in Ypsilanti.

"There are some positives: Real estate and office space are cheaper, and it's easier to find good employees.

"But there are negatives too. Banks aren't lending like they used to; very few people can tap into their home equity to finance a business like they once could; and you really need to make sure your customers have money to spend," he says.

Businesses that offer services are often good choices for start-ups says Penner. "This is where the growth in our economy is; service businesses of the have low start up costs and many people already have the expertise."

Popular examples of service businesses include business consulting from HR to marketing to finance; many types of home health services; and all kinds of personal services from house cleaning to dog walking to body and hair care.

Starting a business doesn't have to be a solo endeavor either. "It takes a certain independence to start your own business but to be successful you need to know how to connect with others too," says Shuman.

It's important to talk to other business owners, get advice and create a network of support. And if it seems too scary to do it entirely yourself, look around for a like-minded person to partner with.

Community and strategy

That's what Josie Ann Lee and Christin Draybuck did when they decided to go into business in October 2008 in the midst of a recession–and they don't have a single regret.

Balance Massage Therapy in Dixboro, Mich. is located in a small hub of activity just behind the bustling Moonwinks Café.

"Everyone kept warning us about the bad economy," says Lee. "But our concept was to be affordable, accessible and adaptable, and it's worked so far."

Lee has a background in business and management, and Draybuck is a trained massage therapist. Initially they considered opening a franchise with a national massage therapy chain. "But eventually we decided we didn't feel comfortable giving our hard work to someone else," says Lee, "We realized that we knew the community better than the franchiser and we could do a better job on our own."

They saved money by creating their own logo, Web site and business plan instead of hiring it out. And they tapped into local resources to promote their new business with free chair massages at cafés, clinics and hospitals.

The business grew 30 percent each quarter over their first year, probably because plenty of discounts and special deals kept their rates low. That decision has paid off in a successful business.

"We think massage is a right, not a luxury," Lee says. "Everyone feels happier after a massage." CF

Small and Local

Find out more about supporting, working for or starting a small business

National Organizations

Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE)

The parent organization for the 80-plus regional networks that support small and local business.

www.livingeconomies.org

U.S. Small Business Administration

This is the best place to gather information and get started if you're considering your own small business.

www.sba.gov

Local and Regional Resources

Ann Arbor Spark

A fantastic local resource for start-ups and small businesses in the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti areas.

www.annarborusa.org

Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center

Provides invaluable resources for small business start-ups in Michigan.

www.misbtdc.org

The Michigan District Office of the Small Business Administration

Provides local news and resources for starting a business in Michigan.

www.sba.gov/localresources/district/mi

Think Local First of Washtenaw County

A network to support and cultivate locally-owned, independent businesses in Washtenaw County.

www.thinklocalfirst.net

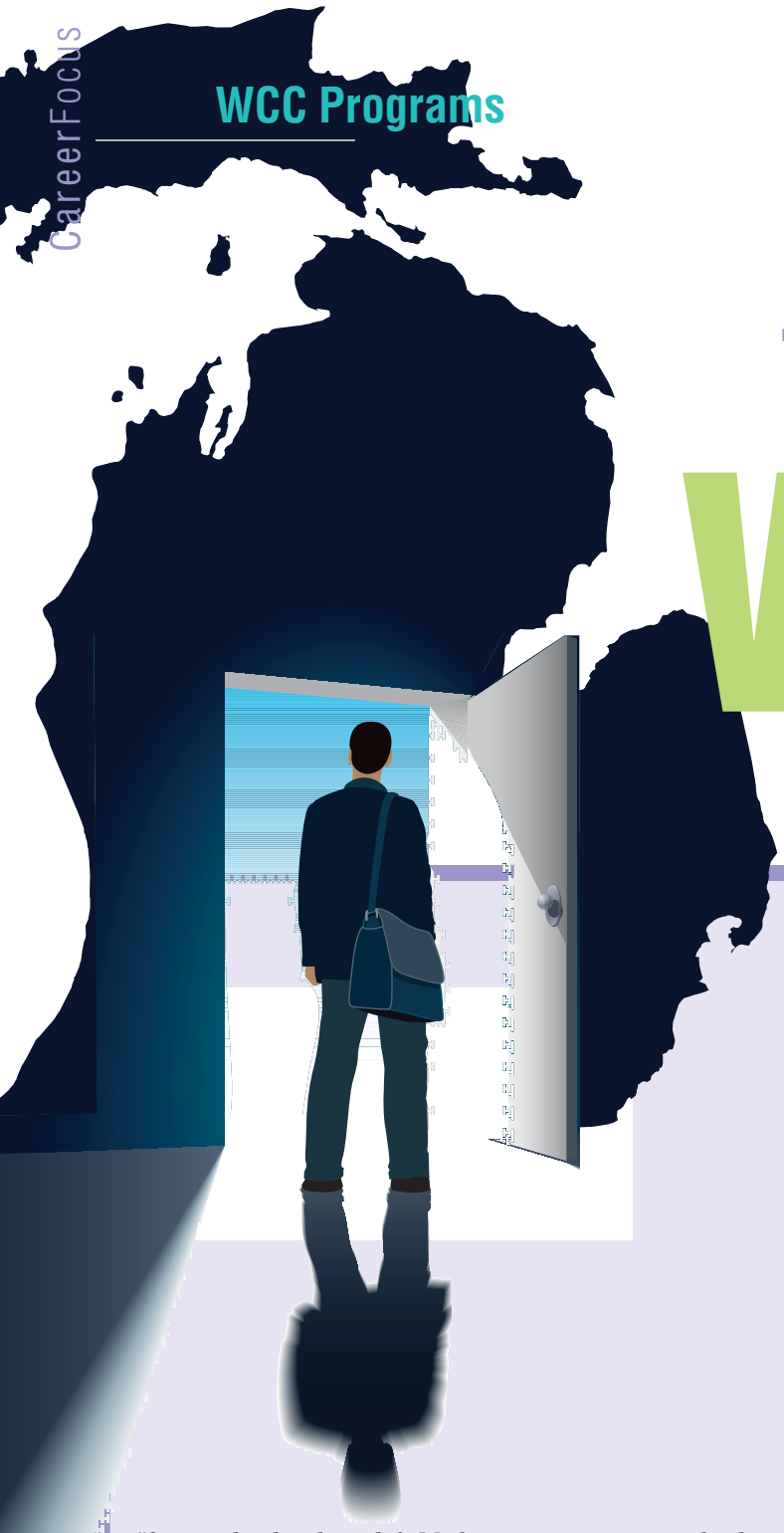
"Just because the economy is bad, doesn't mean it's a bad time to start a business. There are some positives: Real estate and office space are cheaper and it's easier to find good employees."

Finding the Bright Spots in the Michigan Economy

We already know the bad news: Michigan has the highest unemployment rate in the country with as much as 20 percent of the population either unemployed or underemployed.

Nearly a million workers have lost good-paying manufacturing jobs in the state since 2000, and no one expects those jobs to return. The auto industry will probably never return to its former glory, and many economic experts predict that any real employment growth is at least a year away.

It's easy to become disheartened, but don't despair; there are some bright spots on the economic horizon. CareerFocus takes a look at four promising trends in the state: growth in professional occupations, the emerging green economy, Michigan's burgeoning film industry and hope for the future of autos and manufacturing. **CF**



"Some jobs that have left Michigan are not coming back. And the answer to that isn't to raise false hopes that somehow we can bring back lost jobs but to create new ones."

Presidential Candidate John McCain in the 2008 Republican Primary

Say Yes to Knowledge

In Michigan, education will shape the economy

By Laura L. Crawford

Although John McCain caught a lot of criticism for that statement during the presidential campaign, he turned out to be right about Michigan's economy. Perhaps our state was built on manufacturing, but knowledge workers and professionals will shape its future.

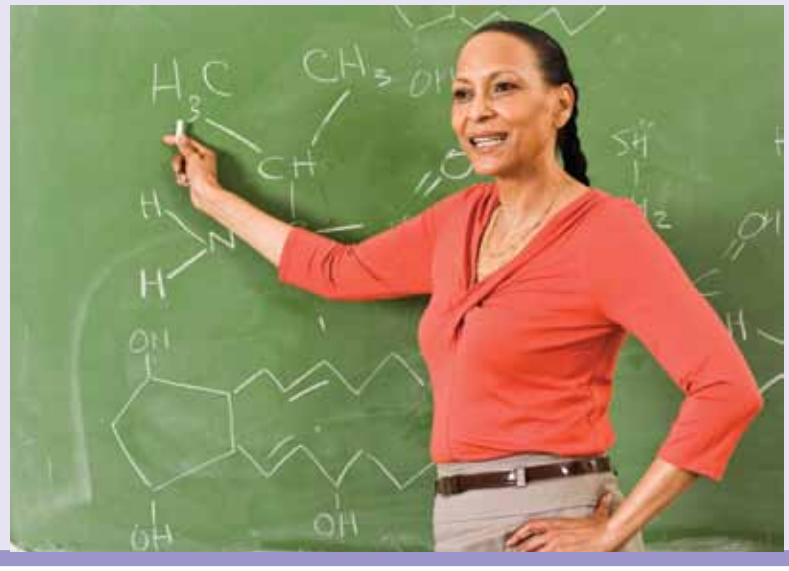
Job growth

Just what do we mean by "knowledge workers," you ask. The answer is simple–the good jobs of the future will rely more on mental skills than physical skills. These jobs will demand education and training, and most of them will require at least a bachelor's degree.

Knowledge workers are the people that the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics calls "Professional and Related." The BLS projects that these professional occupations will add more jobs to our economy in the next ten years than any other. These jobs include a broad range of titles including scientists, engineers, health and social service professionals, teachers, lawyers, librarians, and arts, entertainment and media workers.

According to BLS projections, professional and related occupations will add about 5.2 million new jobs to the economy over the next eight years.

According to BLS projections, professional and related occupations will add about 5.2 million new jobs to the economy over the next eight years. Nationwide, professional jobs in healthcare, education and computer occupations top the charts of predicted growth, and in Michigan the outlook is similar.



More prosperity

So not only is a college education good for you, it's good for the state.

In a February 2008 report, the think tank Michigan Futures found that high prosperity states–where middle class workers enjoy good incomes and low unemployment–all have had several things in common: more workers in knowledge-based jobs, more workers with four-year degrees and thriving cities where education levels and wages were even higher than in the surrounding state.

Today, Michigan lags far behind those high-prosperity states.

In terms of college education, Michigan ranks 34th in the nation with only 24 percent of adults with a bachelor's degree or higher. Compare that to first place, high-prosperity, Massachusetts where 37 percent of adults have a four-year degree or higher.

In terms of wages Michigans lags too. In 2006, when per capita income in Michigan was $33,784, it was $46,255 in Massachusetts.

Nationally, high school graduates earn a median yearly salary of $31,500, and their college-educated counterparts bring home $50,900 and above.

And a college education also pays off with a lower risk of unemployment. In 2008, when unemployment

Prepare for the Knowledge Economy at WCC

If you want the salary and security that a college education offers, WCC has options.

The College's Transfer and University Parallel Programs can provide you with the first two years of a bachelor's degree in dozens of professions and cost you thousands of dollars less than if you took the same foundation courses at a four-year university.

WCC's transfer programs in concentrations such as business, computer science, education, liberal arts, math and science and social work can put you on the road toward some of the state's high-growth, high-pay professions. Look thorough the **Transfer and University Parallel** programs on page 21 of this magazine for more information.

But don't overlook WCC associate degree programs that can get you started in high-demand healthcare and computer professions. Look through the **School of Information Technology** and **School of Nursing and Health Sciences** on page 20 of this magazine for more information on these programs. CF

was lower than today, high school graduates suffered 5.7 percent unemployment, yet unemployment for college graduates was only 2.8 percent–and even lower for those with graduate degrees.

Today in 2010, Michigan's official unemployment rate tops 15 percent, but those who have hope for their own future, and for the prosperity of the state, will set their sights on the knowledge economy. CF

STUDENT PROFILE

Brett Cunningham

Making a difference in the community

At age 23, Brett Cunningham III has had opportunities to see many new places including both coasts of the U.S., several European countries and the Virgin Islands. But he doesn't really feel like he wants to live anywhere else. It's important to him to stay connected to his home in Ypsilanti, Mich.

Sure, if he gets an opportunity to go to graduate school out of state, he'll take it. He's shooting high with Harvard's Graduate School of Education on his short list. Still, he doesn't understand why so many people are in such a hurry to get out of Michigan.

"All my friends from high school and college are leaving, but I want to stay. This is where my family is," he says.

He's the kind of guy you'd really like to see stick around too.

Just one year after transferring to the University of Michigan School of Education from WCC, he was honored in 2009 as one of the recipients of the U-M Martin Luther King Jr. Spirit Award.

At Michigan he joined The Young People's Project, an afterschool program that promotes math literacy for minority students. He devotes anywhere from 20 to 30 hours to TYPP as program coordinator and trainer for programs in the Willow Run, Ypsilanti and Wayne Memorial school districts. "We teach math through hand-on activities with an interactive focus. We also do fundraising and address social justice issues," says Cunningham.

While Cunningham always had an aptitude for math, at WCC he channeled that into a desire to teach. "I'm sure if I hadn't come to WCC, I wouldn't have been doing any of this," he says.

It wasn't just his math instructors who encouraged him, he found support from his history and psychology instructors too, He also found support in several student groups – The African-American Students Association, African-American Men for Education and Success and MTIES, a program to help minority students transfer from WCC to U-M.

To keep up with his busy schedule of work and classes, he's become a very organized guy. Every semester he schedules all his work, homework, exams and free time into a calendar that he programs into his phone for daily reminders of his obligations.

It's worth it to him to keep up the tight schedule: "This is right in line with what I want to do for the rest of my life so I'm getting as much out of it as I can," he says. CF

LLC

KNOWLEDGE

Hype or Hope

Are green jobs going to turn this economy around?

By Cathy J. Smillie

The environment is big business these days. Get yourself trained in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, conservation or recycling, and the employers will come knocking on your door.

Well maybe…

"Do your research," advises Patricia Taylor, dean of Support Services and Student Advocacy at WCC "The energy job outlook changes all the time. You need to understand industry trends and position yourself for opportunities that come along."

The prospects are good

Already, the economy is generating about 1.3 million new "green collar" jobs per year, reports Chicago based outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas on their job search advice blog. And, according to the nonprofit American Solar Energy Society (ASES), by 2030 the number of U.S. jobs directly or indirectly related to energy efficiency and conservation will reach 37 million.

Government dollars are available

"Building a robust clean-energy sector is how we will create the jobs of the future, jobs that pay well and can't be outsourced," President Obama said in early January, announcing new tax credits for green jobs while calling for additional money for green manufacturing. $500 million of the president's stimulus package is designated for green job-training programs, along with billions in loan guarantees for green industries.

Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm announced in December that the U.S. Department of Labor awarded $5.8 million in energy training grants to train nearly 600 people in Macomb, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties for green jobs, including $1 million to be used by the International Training Institute to prepare 240 unemployed sheet metal workers for careers in energy efficient building construction, retrofitting and manufacturing.

If Granholm can push to approve renewable energy portfolio standards, alternative energy manufacturers will be awarded incentives to set up shop in the state, which would bring the potential for up to 35,000 jobs with them, according to a report from the Blue Green Alliance quoted in *The New York Times*.

"Green jobs are becoming an increasingly important factor in Michigan's economy," said Andy Levin, chief workforce officer for the state. "This funding will continue Michigan's efforts to build a robust green workforce."

But green doesn't always mean gold

As in Michigan, the creation of green jobs across the country requires strong government regulation and oversight, reports Good Jobs First (GJF), a Washington, D.C.-based watchdog group charged with making "economic development subsidies more accountable and effective." The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Web site reports that the average wage for production workers in durable goods industries is $18.88 an hour. Yet GJF's report shows that a majority of wind and solar companies pay less than that for equivalent manufacturing jobs.

A number of employment sources such as Greenjobs.com, the Environmental Career Organization, and ASES' clean-tech job board, list high-visibility positions such

By 2030 the number of U.S. jobs directly or indirectly related to energy efficiency and conservation will reach 37 million.

Search for Green Jobs

How do you start your green job search? Taylor suggests checking the Bureau of Labor Statistics in your state (e.g. Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economics), which contains lots of information for job seekers. "Monster.com and some of the following Web sites will aid you in your research," she says.

Sustainablebusiness.com. Look under "Green Dream Jobs" for positions with environmentally-conscious employers, ranging from solar water heating system installer to Web producer, to human resources assistant.

Idealist.org. Search for jobs at nonprofits in categories such as "environmental & ecology" or "energy conservation & green living."

Greenjobs.com. Find a wide range of technical and professional jobs.

Environmentalcareer.com. Locate hundreds of jobs, especially in environmental sciences and energy fields. CF

GRE

WCC's Getting Greener

Two new programs slated for the fall of 2010 will provide a specific focus on sustainability

- **Green Building Certificate**
  Offered through the Residential Construction Program. Studies include alternative energy generation–mainly solar and wind–energy audits and efficiency, green building technology and green remodeling techniques.

- **Associate in Environmental Science**
  The program's core will be composed of general education courses, including introductory college science classes in chemistry, biology, geology and physics. Students can be taking these courses right now, explains Marty Showalter, WCC dean of math and science, and then decide if they want to apply them to the new program. The program has been submitted for approval; if it is approved, new environmental courses will be offered in the fall 2011 semester.

Other WCC programs that can prepare you for fields with green opportunities are:

- **Construction Management Associate in Art.**
  See page 19 of this magazine for listing.

- **HVACR Certificates or Associate in Applied Science.**
  See page 19 of this magazine for listing.

- **Math and Science Transfer.**
  See page 21 of this magazine for listing. CF

as scientific researchers, environmental engineers, forestry or agriculture officers, policy analysts, activists, etc. Yahoo! Hot Jobs (hotjobs.com) lists the fields of environmental education, environmental law, government land use planning, waste management and recycling as recession proof jobs.

However, the majority of work created by the green energy industries includes the same job titles seen in other industries, such as electricians, welders, engineers, accountants, clerical staff, IT specialists, construction supervisors and factory workers. Moreover, one green project can spawn others. For example, demand for solar panel systems would create work for architects, builders, installers, electricians and others. CF

EEN

STUDENT PROFILE

James Smalley

Betting on a greener economy

After working for ten years as a project manager with a commercial construction business, James Smalley was laid off in early 2009. It's a rough time to be in construction, an industry that has lost approximately 1.6 million jobs since the recession began.

Smalley looked for another position only to find that most employers now required a degree for the work he had been doing. "I think that as jobs became more scarce, employers began requiring a degree so they would get only the best applicants," he says.

With a home, a family and a wife with a good teaching job in Michigan, he never felt that leaving the state for a job was an option. He remains optimistic that better days are ahead. "The economy will eventually turn around, and those of us still here will be in a position to benefit. I just hope it's sooner rather than later."

So at the age of 38, he enrolled in WCC's Construction Management Associate Degree program and plans to transfer to Eastern Michigan University for a bachelor's degree. "I'm taking classes in business, accounting, human resources and construction, and I should have my associate's this spring." He hopes to find a job and continue his education at night.

Smalley believes the resurgence of construction in Michigan will be driven by sustainable building practices, and he hopes to be ready for that. He'd like to add credentials that would make him more valuable to a sustainably-minded builder too.

"Green building is not a fad; it's here to stay," he asserts. " Business owners are beginning to see that less waste and less expense on energy saves money in the long run. Much of sustainability is about durability. That might mean spending more upfront, but saving over the long run because it's more efficient with a longer life." CF

LLC

From Assembly Line to Dream Factory

Movies take a shine to Michigan

By Eleanor Shelton

In 2007 just three films were made in Michigan with a total budget of $2 million.

But in 2008 the film and video industry blossomed when the state approved an aggressive tax incentive and created a new industry that previously played from little to no role in the economy.

As a result, in 2008, 35 films were produced in the state with a total gross expenditure of $125 million, and in 2009 that number rose to 52 film projects totaling over $200 million, according to the Michigan Film Office.

Creating new jobs

Jim Burnstein, University of Michigan screenplay writing chairman in the Department of Screen Arts and Cultures, is thrilled to see all these film projects coming to Michigan. "Now our best young talent doesn't have to flee to one coast or the other," he said at a recent meeting of

the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council. "What we have over other states that also offer tax incentives is a great educational system. We have great public institutions and great community colleges."

When studios decide to shoot a film or video in Michigan they need to know that the talent is here to support the project. "We need more technically trained people to support these films coming to the state," says Ken Droz communications manager for the Michigan Film Office. "In most cases the studio will hire between 20 to 70 percent local, but a new project in Pontiac will be 100 percent local. We hear that the studios are loving what they're getting here."

Plenty of variety

Detroit freelance producer Amy Abbott began her career as a production assistant in Detroit doing everything from coffee runs, picking up dry cleaning or anything else she was assigned on the set. But she was talented and lucky and quickly moved to graphics coordinator. Most recently she worked as a field producer on the *Motor City Motors* series airing on the Discovery Channel.

"My responsibilities are the creative tasks like casting, scheduling shoots, finding locations, getting permits for everything that has to do with production coordinating in Michigan. I love what I do because of the flexibility and there is a lot of variety from project to project," says Abbott.

According to the Michigan Film Office, the film industry in Michigan has already created 7,000 new production jobs, and several new studios are under construction, including a 450,000 square-foot space in Grand Rapids and others in the works around Detroit.

"These projects have created a new workforce and have kept a chunk of our young graduates from fleeing the state if they want to pursue a career in the film industry," says Droz.

"There are also jobs for those who may be in transition, such as Teamsters who have lost their jobs are now driving big equipment rigs or accountants who were laid off are now film production accountants."

Creative and fast paced

Julie Juran opened Sam's Prop House to serve the prop needs of the burgeoning Michigan film. Currently she's is working on a television series being filmed in Howell, Michigan called "Wannabes."

"I love this industry but it's either feast or famine, definitely not 9 to 5," says Juran.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook, there are hundreds of small businesses and independent contractors hired by the studios on an as-needed basis. These companies provide services such as equipment rental, lighting, special effects, set construction, costume design, hair and makeup and many others.

At 23, John Valkevich, is just beginning his career in the film industry. With a bachelor's degree in film and video production from Western Michigan University and editing classes from Specs Howard,

STUDENT PROFILE

Amanda Rivera

A career in digital video

Digital video student Amanda Rivera, 21, says that she's learned to stay open to the unexpected when creating videos. "My best work comes from trying new things or even by accident," she explains.

And while the initial camera work and lighting are important, it's the post-production computer editing process that really engages Rivera the most.

"I like to manipulate things to turn out the way I want. I want to take something raw and turn it into a masterpiece!" says Rivera.

Although she admits to never being 100 percent satisfied, and if she didn't have deadlines, she's not sure she would ever stop trying to improve her work.

After graduating from WCC, Rivera plans to study graphic design and then get her bachelor's degree in Film Studies at Columbia College in Chicago, and follow that with a master's degree. Her goal is to work in the field perhaps in commercials or feature films as well as teach.

"I want my art to engage a wide audience," explains Rivera. "I want to get their minds moving. I've found that my best communication is through my videos. It's better than talking." **CF**

ES

Video with a Difference

WCC's digital program is high-tech and hands-on

The film industry in Michigan has already created 7,000 new production jobs, and several new studios are under construction, including a 450,000 square-foot space in Grand Rapids and others in the works around Detroit.

"Every college in the country has a video program; it's the digital aspect that was forward-thinking," says WCC instructor Dan Kier about the College's popular Digital Video Production programs.

"Just go online and you will see video everywhere–YouTube, and hundreds of other sites."

And with the influx of video and film projects to Michigan, the WCC program has grown 65 percent since it began in 2001.

"Digital video has become more prevalent. The equipment and software is more accessible to the average person and they can create a video, put it on the Web and have an immediate audience. Look at what happened with the movie *Paranormal Activity*," says Kier.

At WCC, students have almost immediate access to professional-level cameras, editing software, computers, state-of-the-art green screen, and lighting. Students get hands-on training on every facet of the video production from concept to dissemination of a finished product.

"Before video and film professionals were specialized, but now you need to be able to do everything from writing, editing, camera work," says Kier.

"Our graduates learn it all, and depending on the quality of their resume reel, they can compete with graduates of any school in the country."

See page 21 of this magazine for a listing of the **Digital Video Production** program. CF

he is getting much needed work experience as an intern in the art department for a production company filming the movie *Vanishing on Seventh Street*.

"I was willing to do an unpaid internship because I needed to get hands-on work experience," he says.

"It's always something new and I get to work with other creative people. There is no other job like it in the world. Even after my limited experience I can't imagine doing anything different," says Valkevich. CF

MOVIES

Down, Not Out

Automotive and manufacturing careers in Michigan won't disappear

By Anita LeBlanc

If your heart is set on working in Michigan's automotive or manufacturing industries, don't let the current recession lead you to give up hope. David E. Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research and Dan Luria, research director of the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center agree that while the industries will never be the same, both will persevere and remain significant employers in the state.

"Manufacturing in Michigan will continue. Michigan without manufacturing is not an economy that works," says Luria.

Cole acknowledges, "While it's true we will never again see the number of auto workers we saw 15-30 years ago, the auto industry will not go away. However, it will be very different from what it once was."

The awful truth

Yes, Michigan's economy is taking a beating. A disproportionate share of the motor vehicle manufacturing market that once made the state one of the most competitive in the automotive and related industries ultimately made its economy vulnerable. Foreign imports, offshore outsourcing, trade agreements, reduced demand, restructuring, the credit crunch and increased productivity–the reasons are many behind the plunge of the industries and the accompanying recession.

Says Cole, light vehicle sales have experienced the biggest drop since the Depression, declining to 10 million currently compared to 16 million pre-recession. Kristin Dziczek, director of the labor and industry group at CAR, adds that from 1999 through 2009, Michigan's motor vehicle and parts manufacturing employment saw a 66 percent decline.

Luria soberly acknowledges a big drop in Michigan manufacturing as well. He says, "The general manufacturing industry, and the overall income in Michigan, is depressed because of the downturn of the automotive economy. The manufacturing sector, once a third of Michigan's employment, is now at 12.5 percent."

Technology calls for skills now

Cole argues that the days when a high school graduate without skills or training could get a job on the assembly line are over.

"The technology of the past was simple. Workers grew into it as it became more advanced. In today's level of sophisticated technology, workers and potential workers must know, have experience, pass tests and continue to advance their knowledge and skills through lifelong learning in order to work or remain in the automotive or manufacturing sectors.

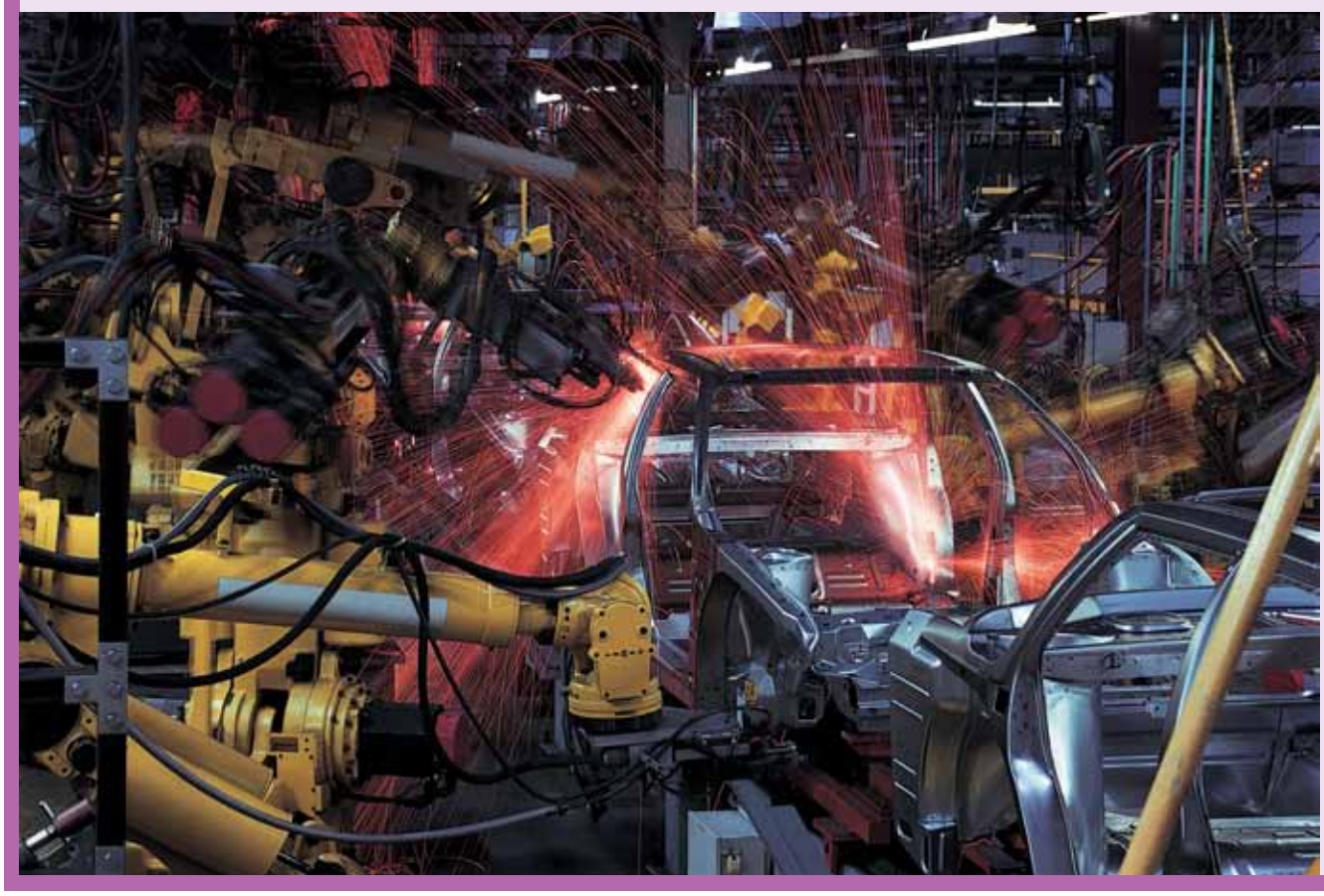
"What was once thought an unskilled job on the assembly line will now require a two-year certificate, associate or four-year degree because of ongoing technological advances."

Reasons to believe

Dziczek notes the key reason that automotive jobs will become available will be the need to replace workers who retire and those who leave the state for other employment.

"The companies did very little hiring over the last 20 years as the industry was fully staffed. Now, 47 percent of those working in the motor vehicle and parts supply

"While it's true we will never again see the number of auto workers we saw 15-30 years ago, the auto industry will not go away. However, it will be very different from what it once was."



MANUFACTURING

Still Love Those Cars

WCC's forward-looking programs in automotive and manufacturing

industries are over the age of 45 and nearing retirement."

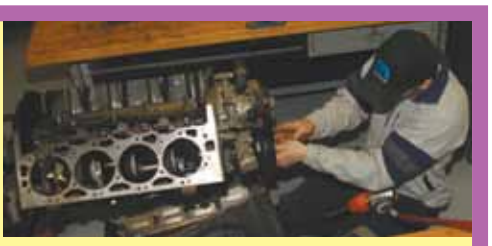
Luria agrees that jobs will also become available as those in manufacturing leave the state or retire. "There will be good-paying positions available, but far fewer of them."

Both believe that there will be a call for mechanical and industrial engineers, mechanical repair experts and engineering technicians.

Luria says, "Michigan companies need to move into high-end manufacturing, notably in medical devices, defense and alternative energy. We don't want to use stimulus funding to pay people to go to school and then leave the state. If there are fewer jobs at Visteon, we need there to be more jobs at Bosch and Siemens and have some of those jobs not be automotive." **CF**

School of Advanced Manufacturing Systems. WCC's programs in Automation, Electronics, Machine Tool and Manufacturing can all prepare you for careers in skilled manufacturing whether it's auto-related or not. See the listing on p. 17 of this magazine.

Math and Science Transfer in Pre-Engineering and Physics. If your heart is set on engineering for the auto industry, get your start at WCC with two years of foundation courses designed to transfer to engineering programs at universities in Michigan and elsewhere. See the listing on page 21 of this magazine.



Automotive Services Certificate and Advance Certificate. If you just love cars and want a career working under the hood, these programs will prepare you for work as an automotive technician. See the listing on page 18 of this magazine. **CF**

STUDENT PROFILE

Jason Crook

Investing in the future of manufacturing and Michigan

Despite two layoffs in the Michigan manufacturing industry, Jason Crook is hopeful that the education he is pursing today will keep him in the field and state he loves.

Crook began attending Eastern Michigan University in 2001 after graduating from South Lyon High School. He had plans to go into mechanical engineering, but found it wasn't for him. He went to work for three years on a Toyota assembly line until a layoff. He then found employment at Lowe's, and later at Michigan Seamless Tube. He worked full time and returned to school part time in 2006, to enhance his manufacturing skills and marketability.

"I'd heard about automation technology [the automatic operation or control of equipment, a process or system]. Even with manufacturing in a downturn, I saw that an education in automation technology could lead to a viable career where I really had an interest – robotics engineering. While jobs may not be as available in automotive, other Michigan manufacturing industries, pharmaceuticals for example, need robotics engineers."

A layoff in 2009 sent Crook to Michigan Works! He was pleased to learn there that he could attend school full-time and receive two years of college funding through the No Worker Left Behind program. He also found that his credits from EMU were transferrable to WCC. Crook is now attending classes at both colleges. He'll receive an Associate in Automation Technology from WCC this summer, and a Bachelor of Science in Technology Management from EMU this fall.

He's eager to find work after graduation in a manufacturing company where he can help bring innovation and new processes. He says that plans to stay in Michigan depend on "how the cards fall," adding, "My fiancée and I love the four seasons and our families are here, but if I can't find a job, I'll start looking online. Leaving Michigan is our last option." **CF**

AL

Feature

Tired of School? Try Life

Maybe you need a gap year to energize your dreams

By James Militzer

In April of his senior year, after he'd already been accepted to college, Karl Haigler's son Adam dropped a bombshell; he just wasn't ready to go.

As a former high school principal and literacy initiative director at the U.S. Department of Education, Haigler always assumed his own kids were college-bound.

At first, Adam's decision bewildered his parents. "He was a good student, so it wasn't like he couldn't do the work," Haigler recalls. "Then he told us that he was burned out. He'd been doing this school stuff for 12 years, and he wanted to spend a year experiencing some other things and giving something back to the community. When I heard that, I thought that was a constructive way to at least begin the conversation."

Whether from burn-out, vocational uncertainty or a desire to see the world, more and more college students are taking a structured year off.

Adam's situation isn't unusual. Whether from burn-out, vocational uncertainty or a desire to see the world, more and more college students are taking a structured year off. Called a "gap year" because it often comes between high school and college, this year typically involves internships, community service, or other forms of real-world work experience. After their son completed a successful gap year, Haigler and his wife co-authored *The Gap Year Advantage*, to help families through this pivotal time.

Experiences shape goals

"Students generally come back from their gap year much more focused and independent," says Haigler. "They're more financially aware, and more conscious of the way things are outside of academia. The gap year also helps them learn about themselves. We did a survey of 300 gap year alums, and 60 percent said that as a result of their gap year, they found a career focus.

"And among gap year alums in their 20s who'd entered the workforce, almost 70 percent reported being satisfied with their careers–compared to an average job satisfaction rate of about one third."

Will Kimmell can attest to those results. When he started his gap year, he was planning to major in history and political science. Then he spent a year working on organic farms in Peru and Ecuador, and doing wildlife conservation in South Africa. "I'd always liked to spend time outside, so I chose activities based on being in the wilderness as much as possible," he says.

"As a result, I really got interested in sustainable living and sustainable agriculture, so I decided to change schools and majors. I'm now studying senvironmental studies and peace and conflict studies. I wasn't too set on anything before I left, but it kind of shaped what I'm going to do for the rest of my life."

Not a vacation

According to Brian Kurth, a career counselor and author of Test Drive Your Dream Job, Kimmell's approach to his gap year was just right. "The gap year is meant to be productive, not just sitting, drinking Diet Coke and watching Oprah," he explains. "You need to have an agenda, whether it's travel, volunteer work, an internship or mentorship, or all of the above. You need to have your goals set. And the number one goal is to define what a great job is, based on what your passions, strengths and skills are.

"It's personal and professional due diligence to seek out what you really want to do," he continues. "And it ultimately will save time and money for both the student and the parent, because if you go off to school not knowing what you want to do, a four-year program may become five or six years. You do have risks if you take too much time off, and you don't necessarily

Consider the Gap

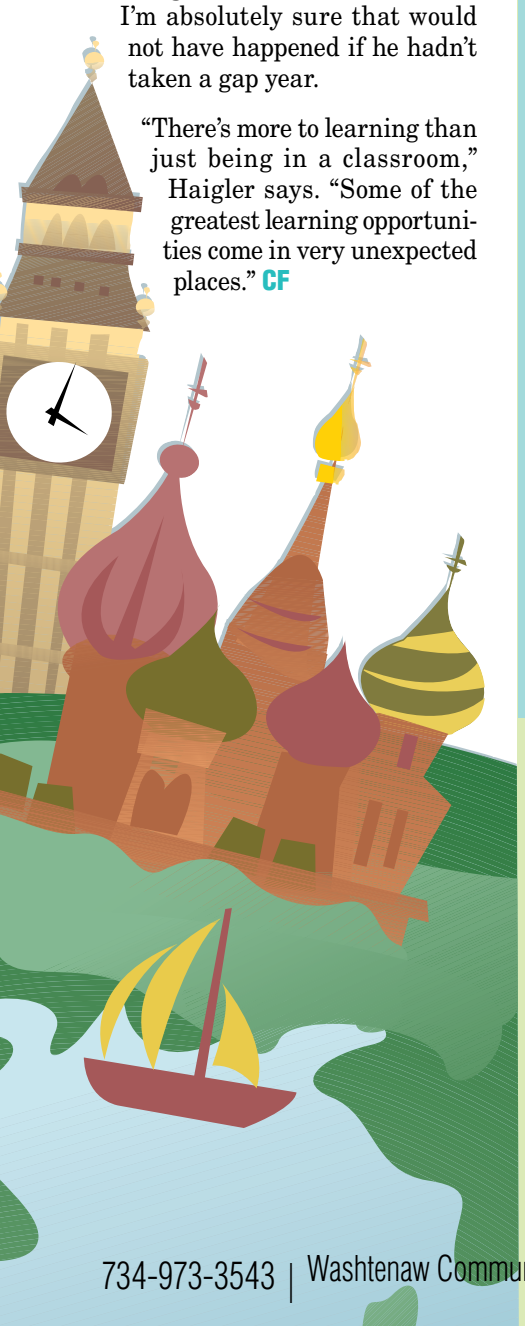
There are good – and bad – reasons to take a year off

want to go back to school at 25. But six or 12 months isn't going to make or break somebody in the big picture of life."

Haigler attributes his son Adam's college success to his gap year experience. After teaching English in Costa Rica and working in a nature conservancy in New Zealand, Adam "came home a different guy," Haigler says. "He was fluent in Spanish, and he'd decided he really wanted to explore teaching as a career. He was very much capable of taking on the challenges of the world, not just the challenges of a freshman year. He's graduating with two bachelor's degrees in June–with no debt.

I'm absolutely sure that would not have happened if he hadn't taken a gap year.

"There's more to learning than just being in a classroom," Haigler says. "Some of the greatest learning opportunities come in very unexpected places." **CF**



Is a gap year right for you? These questions will help you decide – and make the most of whatever experience you choose.

1 Do you have passionate interests and clear goals?
☐ yes ☐ no

2 Are you ready to spend a year working hard–rather than taking it easy?
☐ yes ☐ no

3 Can you handle challenges by yourself?
☐ yes ☐ no

4 Are you willing to cover all or part of your gap year expenses?
☐ yes ☐ no

5 Are you motivated to continue higher education after your gap year ends?
☐ yes ☐ no

6 Are you willing to spend months planning your gap year?
☐ yes ☐ no

7 Are you capable of learning from any negative experiences?
☐ yes ☐ no

8 Are you in your late teens or early 20s?
☐ yes ☐ no

Scoring

7-8 Yes answers:
You're an ideal candidate for a potentially life-changing gap year.

5-6 Yes answers:
You should seriously consider whether a gap year could benefit you.

4 or fewer Yes answers:
Now is probably not the time to take a gap year–but keep it in mind if your circumstances change.

Answers

1 "I think the best sign that you're ready for a gap year is that you're really interested in learning something that you don't think you can learn in school," Karl Haigler says. "Maybe you want to explore an interest, improve your Spanish or French, go overseas–there are plenty of opportunities out there."

2 According to Kristin White, author of *The Complete Guide to the Gap Year*, "If a student takes a year off and stays home, or doesn't accomplish or experience anything different, it could be detrimental to college and job prospects. In a true gap year experience, the learning process continues, with the only difference being that it is outside of the structured world of higher education."

3 "The biggest gap year mistake I've heard is when kids are tethered to home by their cell phones," says Haigler. "If there's a problem, they'll call their parents and have them solve it. That's just not the way to do it, because you're not growing up–and your parents aren't growing up either. "

4 "Either by finding scholarships or doing fundraisers or whatever, you've got to contribute in some way for a gap year to be meaningful for you," says Haigler. Fortunately, though exotic programs can be pricey, some gap year experiences don't cost a dime. "There are wonderful free and low-cost gap year options available," White says. "For example, AmeriCorps offers free health insurance and a stipend, as well as a $4,700 bonus credit toward college tuition."

5 "A gap year could be problematic if you really question whether you will ever go back to school," says Brian Kurth. "But if you're motivated and engaged, and have been historically, you're going to be fine." According to Haigler, his research shows that a gap year doesn't lessen your chances of graduating. "A little over 90 percent of the kids we interviewed went back to school within a year after finishing their gap year," he says.

6 Successful gap years aren't spontaneous. "You really need to do program research," says Haigler. "Get on the Web. Talk to kids who've done the programs you're considering. Typically, your parents will need to be involved, so you need to talk with them about the sequence of activities, and what you want to try to achieve." If you neglect this research, he says, your preferred programs could fill up. "The longer you wait, the fewer options you have."

7 According to Kurth, even disagreeable gap year experiences can have great value. "One of my dream jobs was to be a dog trainer. So I set up a career mentorship with a dog trainer who owned a dog day care center. And I realized that long term, I don't want to clean up poop and spray down urine all day long!" Many gap year students come to similar realizations after unhappy stints in jobs they thought they'd love.

8 Experts agree that gap years are easier when you're young. "There are fewer challenges between high school and college, or during college," Haigler says. "It's just easier to go when you don't have kids or other responsibilities, and you haven't accumulated debt that's hanging over your head." But Kurth says older people can also benefit from a gap year-style exploration. "The older you get, the faster you're going to know if something is right for you. So rather than a gap year, a 37 year-old might just need a gap two months to figure out what their path really is." **CF**

"In a true gap year experience, the learning process continues, with the only difference being that it is outside of the structured world of higher education."

Feature

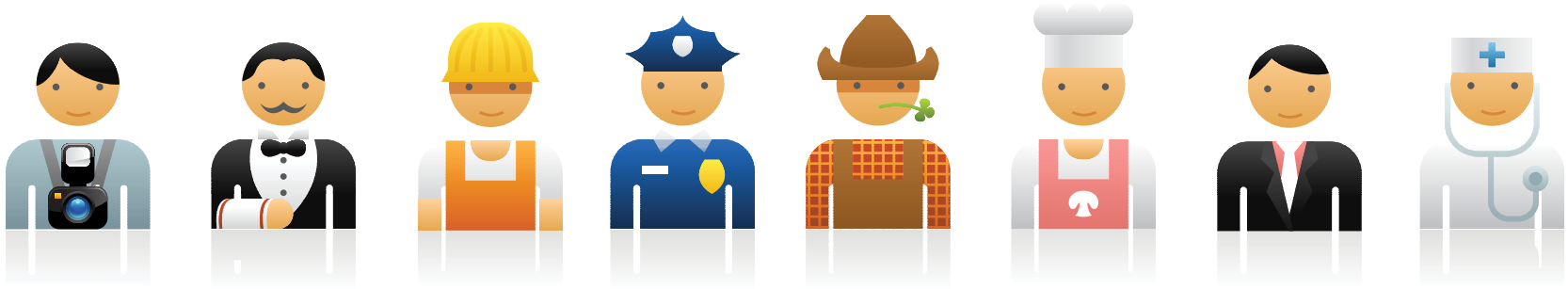
Top 10 Career Trends of the Decade

Workwise, the 21st century started out with a shudder

By Margaret Steen

Today's job seekers face a workplace and job market that have changed dramatically in the past decade. Experts assess the changes: some good, some bad, some a little bit of each.

"Students want to know what majors are in demand and what a typical entry salary would be. Security is uppermost in their minds."



BAD:

Less satisfaction, more uncertainty

1 The job market is more volatile

The decade that started in 2000 began with one of the best job markets ever for job hunters, especially in fields like technology. It ended with the country in a deep recession. In between, the job market vacillated between being a buyer's market and a seller's market. "A lot of things have gotten more extreme," said Joyce L. Gioia, strategic business futurist and president and CEO of The Herman Group. This "seesawing" trend in the job market is one of them.

2 Job satisfaction has dropped

In fact, according to the Conference Board, it's the lowest it's been since they started measuring it. The low marks are especially striking for workers under age 25, says John Gibbons, director of employee engagement research and services for the Conference Board.

3 Workers have less job security

"Companies move their workforces up and down much more fluidly," said John Challenger, CEO of global outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. "It leaves all of us more vulnerable to instant job loss, especially in times of recession."

GOOD:

More freedom, more innovation

4 Work is more flexible

Non-traditional hours and working from home are very popular with workers, Gioia said. Some employers are still more flexible when it's difficult to find workers–but others have embraced workplace flexibility no matter what the job market is like.

5 There's less stigma to losing a job

The upside to the lack of job security is that workers who are laid off are less likely to have their peers–and future employers–assume they were doing a bad job. "I think we've entered into an era of no-fault job loss," Challenger said. "People lose their jobs in downsizings even if they're performing OK."

6 Innovation is on the rise

More companies are realizing that innovation is the key to their success, Gioia said. "Either they will innovate or they will be an also-ran," she says. This means they are more open to new ideas from employees.

IT DEPENDS:

Fashion, free-agents and focus

7 More work is temporary

"We continue to see growth in short-term assignments and project work," Challenger said. For workers who feel that they have been forced into temporary work, this is a negative trend. But some workers appreciate the flexibility, and it's increasingly possible to make a living doing project-based work in some fields.

8 Dress codes are in flux

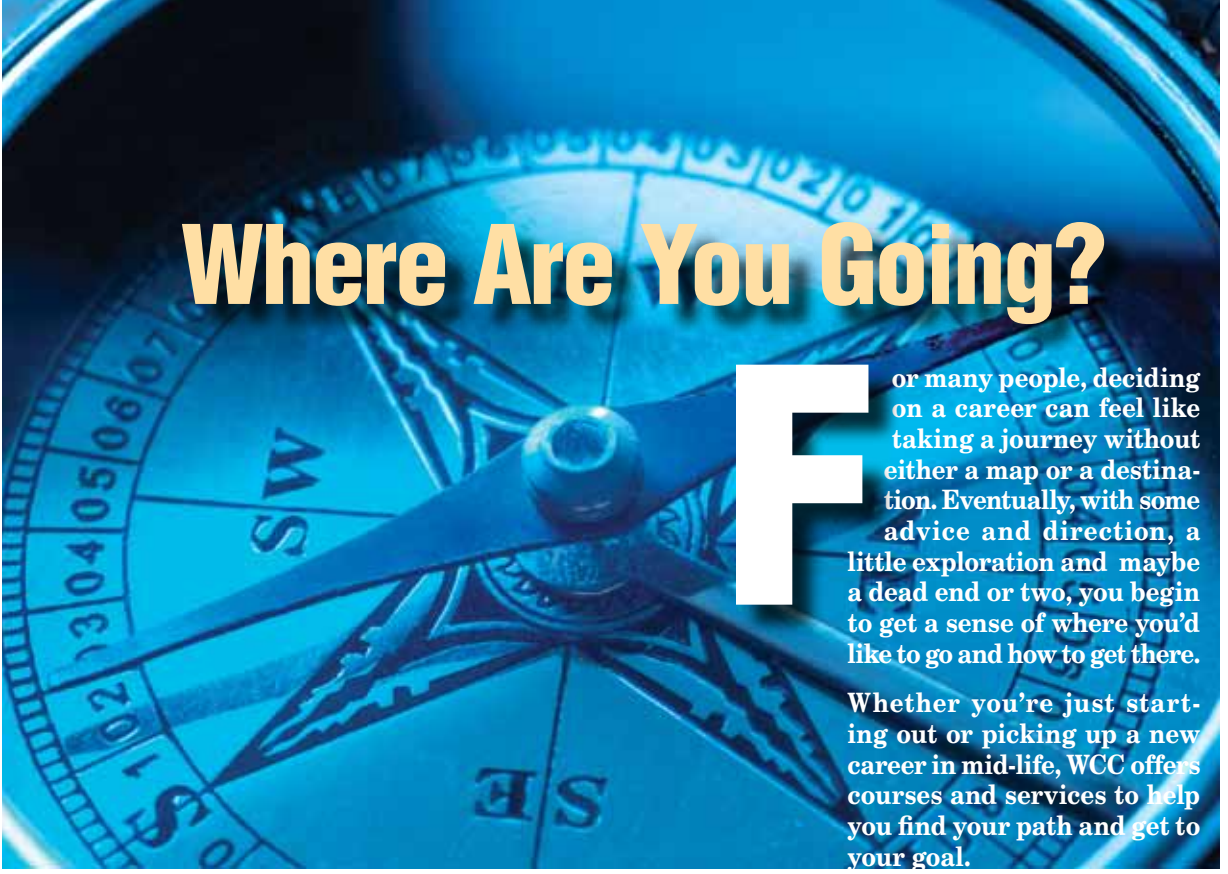
The decade started out with much more casual dress in the workplace, then swung back to a more traditional tone. Today, "everything is kind of mixed up," Challenger said. Workers have to take a cue from those around them: Some workplaces are more formal and others are casual. Gioia said both casual and formal workplace dress have gotten less extreme: "I'm not seeing people wearing tank tops and bare midriffs anymore, but at the same time I'm not seeing a return to suits and stockings and heels."

9 Technology lets workers do more

Now that workers can check their e-mail from the beach and log into the corporate network from home, they are more productive. Companies are also expanding workers' jobs to include a wider range of tasks. "It's a very narrow line that businesses need to walk between the notion of job enrichment and job enlargement," Gibbons said. Having expanded responsibilities can be a good thing–unless it feels like you're just being asked to do two jobs for the price of one.

10 Career choosers focus on the practical

As the cost of education has sky-rocketed, students have focused on the careers where they are most likely to find a job and earn a good salary, said Susan Walter, counselor and career services coordinator at Monterey Peninsula College in Monterey, Calif. "Students want to know what majors are in demand and what a typical entry salary would be. Security is uppermost in their minds." This probably means more students will be able to pay back their student loans, but it also could mean some don't even try to get the job they really want. CF



Where Are You Going?

For many people, deciding on a career can feel like taking a journey without either a map or a destination. Eventually, with some advice and direction, a little exploration and maybe a dead end or two, you begin to get a sense of where you'd like to go and how to get there.

Whether you're just starting out or picking up a new career in mid-life, WCC offers courses and services to help you find your path and get to your goal.

WCC Schools

Good advice and good resources are the best road maps. WCC's Counseling Career Planning and Employment Services can help you explore your options and get started on a plan of action. Academic advisors too, can help you choose the right classes for your goal.

WCC's 14 schools and 100-plus certificates and degree programs are some of the best vehicles around for taking you to your career destinations. In a year or less a certificate can get you into a job, in two years an associate's degree can move you a little farther along your career path, and transferring to a four-year college will take you even farther.

Map out your options by taking a look at the WCC Schools listing below. Visit the WCC CareerFocus Café Web site (www.careerfocus-cafe.com/washtenaw) to research careers and trends. And when you're ready to plan your career road trip, visit www.wccnet.edu to find out how to enroll in classes. Call the Student Connection at 734-973-3543 for answers to your questions. CF

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF ADVANCED MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS

Whether your interest is in robotics, manufacturing or automation, the programs in the School of Advanced Manufacturing Systems will fit your needs. Maintain and troubleshoot the machines that make commercial goods by specializing in one or more aspects of the machining industry. Develop entry level or advanced skills in electronics, automation, industrial computing, fluid power, numerical controls or welding. Advanced specialization is also available in some of these areas.

National Median Salaries

Numerical Tool and Process Control Programmers–$46,360*

Automation

Are you looking for a career as a hydraulic technician, in robotics or an introduction to manufacturing engineering? Consider the field of Automation.

- **Automation Technology Certificate**
- **Fluid Power Certificate**
- **Automation Technology Associate in Applied Science**

Electronics

Specialize in industrial electricity/electronics or computerized systems and programmable logic controllers. The field of Electronics is open to you.

- **Industrial Electronics Technology Certificate**
- **Industrial Electronics Technology II Advanced Certificate**

Machine Tool

Learn about machining operations through the production of parts using WCC's extensive machine tool laboratory.

- **Machine Tool Technology Certificate**

Manufacturing

Develop skills needed to be a numerical control operator or utilize your imagination in the field of manufacturing. Innovation and lean manufacturing are important skills in the field of manufacturing.

- **Advanced Manufacturing Certificate**
- **Numerical Control Programming Certificate**

See the School of Advanced Manufacturing Systems Video

wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Other Options

Welding–See School of Construction Technology

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF APPRENTICESHIP STUDIES

Find a trade-related associate's degree program that builds on your unique set of skills while giving you the knowledge and skills needed to move into organizational leadership.

Apprenticeship Studies

Individualized programs that utilize earned certificates, apprenticeships and trade-related credits tailored to the needs of the student. The Occupational Studies degree offers the flexibility to combine certain certificate programs with general education courses and electives to develop an individualized Associate in Applied Science degree.

- **Apprentice Completion Certificate**
- **Journeyman Industrial Associate in Applied Science**
- **Occupational Studies Associate in Applied Science**

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada

These programs are restricted to members of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada.

- **Construction Supervision Certificate**
- **Construction Supervision Associate in Applied Science**
- **Construction Supervision Associate in Science**
- **Industrial Training Associate in Applied Science**
- **Industrial Training Associate in Science**
- **Sustainable Technologies in HVACR Associate in Applied Science**

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

**From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **From* Salary.com. *Salaries are representative of earnings as of June 2009. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location.*

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF AUTOMOTIVE AND MOTORCYCLE TECHNOLOGY

If you are looking for the best technical training in the automotive or motorcycle fields, WCC's School of Automotive and Motorcycle Technology is the place for you. Whether your focus is finding employment as a technician, learning about performance or creating a custom look, our intermediate and advanced certificate programs as well as associate's degrees will enhance your personal and professional qualifications. These programs offer the perfect blend of classroom and hands-on education not available in any other educational setting.

National Median Salaries

Automotive Body and Related Repairers–$39,950*

Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics –$37,540*

Motorcycle Mechanics–$33,490*

Auto Body Repair

These certificates prepare you for various positions in the auto body repair industry.

- **Auto Body Repair Certificate**
- **Collision Repair Refinish Technician Advanced Certificate**
- **Collision Repair Technician Advanced Certificate**

Automotive Services

The automotive certificates prepare you for work as an automotive technician, diagnosing and repairing malfunctions in automobile systems.

- **Automotive Mechanics Certificate**
- **Automotive Services Technician Advanced Certificate**

See the Auto Body Repair Video

wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Custom Cars & Concepts

Develop advanced skills in the customization of the auto body through the completion of these advanced certificates.

- **Custom Auto Body Technician Advanced Certificate**
- **Custom Fabrication & Chassis Design Advanced Certificate**

Motorcycle Service Technician

Prepare for a career as a motorcycle mechanic or build upon skills already developed.

- **Motorcycle Service Technology I Certificate**
- **Motorcycle Service Technology II Advanced Certificate**

Other Options:

Welding–See School of Construction Technology
Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College is accredited by

The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504
(312) 263-0456
www.ncahlc.org

For information on Washtenaw Community College, visit www.wccnet.edu, or call (734) 973-3300

Washtenaw Community College ADA/EEO/Title IX/Section 504 Compliance Statements

Washtenaw Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, height, weight, marital status or veteran status in provision of its educational programs and services or in employment opportunities and benefits. WCC is committed to compliance in all of its activities and services with the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Public Act 453, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Public Act 220, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Inquiries concerning programs and services under Title IX and Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act should be directed to the Office of the Associate Vice President of Student Services, Room SC 275A, Student Center Building, 734-973-3536. Inquiries regarding compliance in employment should be directed to the College Affirmative Action Officer in the Office of Human Resource Management, Room 120, Business Education Building, 734-973-3497. Inquiries concerning access to facilities should be directed to the Director of Plant Operations, Plant Operations Building, 734-677-5300.

Title II Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act Compliance Statement

The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 is a federal law that mandates the disclosure by all institutions of higher education of the rates of graduation, the number of incidents of certain criminal offenses, and the default rate for student loans. The law also mandates that information be provided on the type of security provided on campus, the pertinent policies regarding security on campus, and policies that record and deal with alcohol and drug abuse. Washtenaw Community College is in full compliance with these provisions and provides the required information annually through college publications. Inquiries concerning the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act should be directed to Washtenaw Community College, Office of the Associate Vice President of Student Services, Room SC 275A, Student Center Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (telephone 734-973-3536).

WCC is a smoke-free campus.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES

Learn the fundamentals you will need to become a business leader or entrepreneur. These programs help you develop entry-level skills in various aspects of business. Whether your goal is to make your place in an existing industry or branch out on your own, these programs can provide the foundation for success.

National Median Salaries

Sales Representatives, Wholesale Manufacturing–$61,470*

Employment, Recruitment and Placement Specialists–$53,870*

Food Service Managers–$52,320*

First Line Supervisors/ Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers–$61,280*

First Line Supervisors/ Managers of Mechanics, Installers, Repairers–$59,160*

Executive Secretaries or Administrative Assistants–$42,340*

Medical Secretaries–$30,800*

Entrepreneurship

Learn how to recognize market opportunities and plan a small business through completion of this certificate program.

- **Entrepreneurship Certificate**

Business

Choose one or more areas in the field of business as you prepare for your future.

- **Business Sales and Marketing Certificate**
- **Human Resource Management Certificate**
- **Management Supervision Advanced Certificate**
- **Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science**

Accounting

Accounting and tax services, CPA firms and small businesses need employees with accounting skills. These programs can provide the skills needed for entry-level positions.

- **Accounting Certificate**
- **Accounting Associate in Applied Science**

Business Office Systems

Whether you are just starting out in an office or advancing to a high-level administrative or executive assistant position, these programs can help you achieve your goals.

- **Administrative Assistant I Certificate**
- **Computer Software Applications Certificate**
- **Medical Office Assistant Certificate**
- **Administrative Assistant II Advanced Certificate**
- **Administrative Assistant Technology Associate in Applied Science**

Other Options

Business Associate in Art–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs
Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL FOR CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS

If you yearn to be involved in nurturing the next generation of young people, the School of Child Care Professionals is the place to begin. Gain the knowledge and skills required for state licensing and national childcare credentials while enjoying the personal experience of working directly with children.

National Median Salaries

Preschool Teachers–$26,610*

Child Care Professionals

Whether you are looking to care for children in a home-based center or a professional or school-based setting, these programs can prepare you for an entry-level position as a child-care professional.

- **Child Development Certificate**
- **Child Care and Education Advanced Certificate**
- **Child Care Professional Associate in Applied Science**

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

**From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **From* Salary.com. *Salaries are representative of earnings as of June 2009. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location.*

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Become part of the growing global community of skilled trades professionals or skilled trades managers. Design, plan, construct and complete structures for your home or for your career. You can earn a certificate or degree in Residential Construction, Construction Management or Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning. These programs offer the perfect blend of classroom education and hands-on training. At the Henry S. Landau Design and Construction Training Center, you will be taught construction skills from the ground up. You can learn classic skills such as woodworking or modern techniques needed to maintain or improve your own structure. On the main campus, the HVACR program offers a wide range of training to equip high-end technicians with the knowledge and skills needed for successful entry into the field.

National Median Salaries

Construction Managers–$89,770*

Carpenters–42,940*

Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics–$42,240*

Welder, Cutter, Solderers or Brazers–$35,370*

Construction Management

Prepare for work in the construction management or property maintenance industries through the completion of these programs.

Commercial Property Maintenance Technology Advanced Certificate

Construction Management Associate in Art

HVACR

Whether you are working on residential or commercial equipment, these programs prepare you for a career in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration industry.

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Residential Certificate

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Commercial Advanced Certificate

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Industrial Advanced Certificate

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Associate in Applied Science

Residential Construction

If you want to learn basic construction, prepare to take the Michigan Builder's License exam or are considering starting a construction business, this is the place to start.

Residential Construction I Certificate

Cabinetmaking/Millwork Systems Technology Advanced Certificate

Residential Construction II Advanced Certificate

Residential Construction Associate in Science

See the Residential Construction Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Welding and Fabrication

Learn skills from beginning welding to advanced fabrication for a career as a welding maintenance mechanic.

Welding Certificate

Welding Mechanics Advanced Certificate

Welding Associate in Applied Science

See the Welding Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Other Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Develop the skills and knowledge necessary for work in law enforcement and criminal justice. Completion of the Police Academy Certificate prepares you to take the exam necessary for a career as a police officer.

National Median Salaries

Police and Sheriff Patrol Officers–$52,810*

Correctional Officers–$41,340*

Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement

The programs prepare you for careers as a police officer or in criminal justice.

Police Academy Certificate

Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Associate in Applied Science

See the School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Other Options

Criminal Justice Associate in Art–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF CULINARY ARTS AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

Find your passion in food, friends and elegant surroundings. Develop skills for an entry-level position in restaurant, hospitality or institutional settings. Whether your interests lie in pastry and wedding cakes, food preparation and marketing or management of food service, these are the programs for you.

National Median Salaries

Food Service Managers–$50,320*

Chefs or Head Cooks–$42,410*

Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management

Develop the skills necessary for a career in the hospitality industry.

Baking and Pastry Certificate

Culinary Arts Certificate

Hospitality Management Certificate

Culinary and Hospitality Management Associate in Applied Science

See the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Other Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

What is the National Median Salary?

CareerFocus uses salary information from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and *Salary.com* unless noted otherwise. These figures represent the national midpoint earnings for each job description. This means that half the U.S. employees surveyed in a particular occupation earn less than this figure and half earn more.

Individual salaries vary based on the region, the size of the employer and the employee's education, experience and skill level. You can research your potential salary at *Salary.com*, *The Occupational Outlook Handbook* at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Web site (www.bls.gov) or by checking with professional organizations and local employers.

**From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **From* Salary.com. *Salaries are representative of earnings as of June 2009. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location.*

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The School of Applied Information Technology gathers the diverse areas that make up the computer technology of today. From basic programming languages to systems development through networking, these programs provide the core of information technology. Develop skills in computer forensics or learn how to run a successful e-business. The growing field of applied information technology is waiting for you.

National Median Salaries

Web Designers–The middle 50 percent earn between $57,174 and $74,702**

Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts– $73,830*

Computer Programers–$73,470*

Java Developers–The middle 50 percent earn between $65,467 and $88,722**

Computer Systems Analysts –$78,830*

Network and Computer Systems Administrators –$73,830*

Internet Professional

Join the Web development industry through the completion of these certificates.

- **Web Technology Certificate**
- **Web Application Developer Advanced Certificate**
- **Web Graphic Design Advanced Certificate**
- **Web User Experience Advanced Certificate**

Networking

Develop and manage computer networks as a network administrator/engineer.

- **Computer Systems Technology Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Academy I Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Operating Systems I Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Associate in Applied Science**
- **Computer Networking Academy II Post Associate Certificate**

Programming

Learn the foundation of computer programming or specialize in a programming language through these programs.

- **Foundations of Information Systems Certificate**
- **C+ Programming Advanced Certificate**
- **Programming in Java Advanced Certificate**

Computer Security and Data Analysis

Become part of the growing field of computer system security and forensics.

- **Foundations of Computer Security Certificate**
- **Foundations of Data Recovery and Analysis Advanced Certificate**
- **Network Security Advanced Certificate**
- **Data Recovery and Analysis Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Systems Security Associate in Applied Science**
- **Data Recovery and Analysis Associate in Applied Science**

See the Computer Security Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Systems Development and Administration

Develop and manage computer systems and using universal operating systems.

- **Linux/Unix Systems I Certificate**

Other Options

Internet Professional AA Degree–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Computer Science Transfer AS Degree, Information Systems Transfer AS Degree, Mathematics and Computer Science AS Degree - See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Students learn basic creative and performance skills in music, drama and dance and how they are applied in a professional setting. Whether you are exploring your own talents, coordinating the talents of others, or practicing the techniques you will need to make a living at your craft, the School of Music and Performing Arts provides the fundamentals you need.

National Median Salaries

Musicians or Singers–$28.28/hr*

Sound Engineering Technicians–$53,110*

Music and Performing Arts

Develop the skills for a career in music performance, engineering or production through these certificate programs.

- **Music Performance Certificate**
- **Music Production/Engineering Certificate**

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

See the School of Music and Performing Arts Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Find your place in the growing field of healthcare. Whether your interest lies in the traditional field of nursing or the new program in physical therapist assistant, the School of Nursing and Health Sciences provides a variety programs designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in dental assisting, pharmacy technology, radiography, physical therapist assistant, nursing assistant or professional nursing.

National Median Salaries

Dental Assistants–$33,170*

Nursing Aides, Orderly or Attendants–$24,620*

Registered Nurses– $65,130*

Pharmacy Aides–$21,500*

Physical Therapist Assistants–$46,300*

Radiologic Technologists and Technicians–$53,230*

Dental Assisting

Prepare for a career as a certified dental assistant through the completion of this program.

- **Dental Assisting Certificate**

Health Care Foundations

Uncertain of your specific career path in the field of health care? This certificate program can provide the essential basic skills to prepare for a specialized program.

- **Health Care Foundations Certificate**

Nursing

Prepare for a career in a variety of healthcare settings through this certificate and associate in applied science degree program.

- **Nursing Assistant Skills Training Certificate of Completion**
- **Nursing Transfer Associate in Applied Science**
- **Registered Nursing Associate in Applied Science**

See the School of Nursing and Health Sciences Video
wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Pharmacy Technology

Work with a professional pharmacist to meet the medication and customer service needs of individuals in a variety of settings.

- **Pharmacy Technology Certificate**

Physical Therapist Assistant

Work with a physical therapist to provide selected services to patients with a wide variety of conditions.

- **Physical Therapist Assistant Associate in Applied Science**

Radiography

Prepare for a career as a radiographer, operating various medical imaging equipment.

- **Radiography Associate in Applied Science**

Other Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

**From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **From* Salary.com. *Salaries are representative of earnings as of June 2009. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location.*

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

We live in an age of communication. The School of Applied Communication is here to serve those who want to develop skills in radio broadcast, technical writing or in print and online journalism.

National Median Salaries

Radio and Television Announcers–$40,410*

Reporters and Correspondents–$33,470 *

Technical Writers–$58,050*

Writers and Authors–$64,560*

Broadcast Arts

Prepare to transfer to a four-year school or begin a career in radio and/or other forms of broadcast arts.

Broadcast Arts Associate in Art

Professional Writing

Provides a foundation for beginning writing or to undertake advanced studies at a four-year institution.

Technical Writing Associate in Science Degree

Technical Writing

Provides a foundation for beginning writing or to undertake advanced studies at a four-year institution.

Technical Writing Certificate

Technical Writing Associate in Arts Degree

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

The eyes say it all in the School of Visual Arts. From the classics of photography and graphic design to the developing fields of digital video and 3-D animation, students can learn a variety of skills leading to multiple career options.

National Median Salaries

Multi-Media Artists and Animators–$62,380

Television, Video or Motion Picture Camera Operators–$47,710*

Film and Video Editors–$62,500

Graphic Designers–$46,750*

Art Directors–$88,510*

Photographers–$35,640*

3-D Animation

Learn the basics of three-dimensional animation used in videos, games and on the Web. This degree will prepare you for an entry-level position in digital modeling and animation.

3-D Animation Associate in Applied Science

Digital Video

Complete these programs to learn how to create digitized video productions for the Web and other presentation forms.

Digital Video Film Production Certificate

Digital Video Production Associate in Art

Graphic Design

From the foundations of visual communication through production techniques, this field allows you to utilize your creative and artistic abilities.

Graphic Design Certificate

Graphic Design Associate in Applied Science

Photography

Develop skills in composition, processing and presentation needed for a satisfying career in professional photography or as a means of personal expression.

Photographic Imaging Certificate

Photographic Technology Associate in Applied Science

See the Photography Video

wccnet.edu/flashvideos

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Washtenaw Community College | TRANSFER AND UNIVERSITY PARALLEL PROGRAMS

If your goal is to continue your education toward a baccalaureate degree, then the Transfer and University Parallel program is the track for you. Complete the first two years of study in a supportive environment with small classes and personal attention.

National Median Salaries

Accountants or Auditors–$65,840

Wholesale and Retail Buyers–$55,540*

Administrative Services Managers–$79,500

Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and Secondary School Teachers–from $49,770 to $54,390*

Engineers–from $72,850 to $119,140*

Physicians or Surgeons–from $153,370 to $206,770*

Social Workers–$46,220

Business

Designed for students who intend to transfer into a four-year school program in business.

Business Associate in Art

Computer Science

Provides a foundation in computer science or business information systems.

Computer Science Associate in Science

Information Systems Associate in Science

Math and Science Associate in Science

Criminal Justice

This program prepares you for a career in law enforcement, the courts or corrections.

Criminal Justice Associate in Art

Education

These programs offer the first two years of instruction required to become a certified teacher in the state of Michigan.

Elementary Education Associate in Art

Secondary Education Associate in Art

Exercise Science

This program prepares the student for further study in areas of exercise science.

Exercise Science Associate in Science

Internet Professional

These programs prepare you to join the Web development industry.

Internet Professional Associate in Art

Liberal Arts Transfer

This program of study can be individualized to meet your needs or the requirements of the transfer college or university.

Liberal Arts Transfer Associate in Art

Math and Science

Learn more about math and science, prepare for careers in engineering, physics, medicine or medical research.

General Studies in Math and Natural Science Associate in Science

Math and Science Associate in Science

Pre-Engineering/Physics Associate in Science

Pre-Medicine Associate in Science

Social Work

This program prepares you to transfer to a bachelor's degree program in social work.

Human Services Associate in Art

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

**From U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **From* Salary.com. *Salaries are representative of earnings as of June 2009. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location.*

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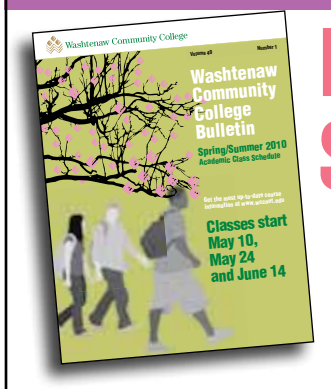
WCC SPRING/SUMMER 2010


Washtenaw Community College
Washtenaw Community College Bulletin
Spring/Summer 2010
Academic Class Schedule
Classes start May 10, May 24 and June 14

Registration Starts March 24

for new students.

Classes start May 10, May 24 and June 14

Don't Get Dropped!

Pay by April 30 to keep your seat
Pay the day of registration after April 30

WCC is now offering more

WEEKEND CLASSES

to fit your schedule

Find Saturday (Sa) and Sunday (Su) classes online at www.wccnet.edu

Washtenaw Community College

STUDENT CO-OP HOUSING!!

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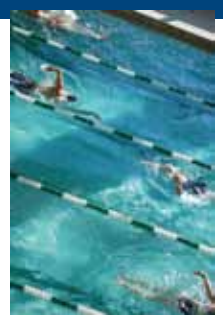

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The Health & Fitness Center
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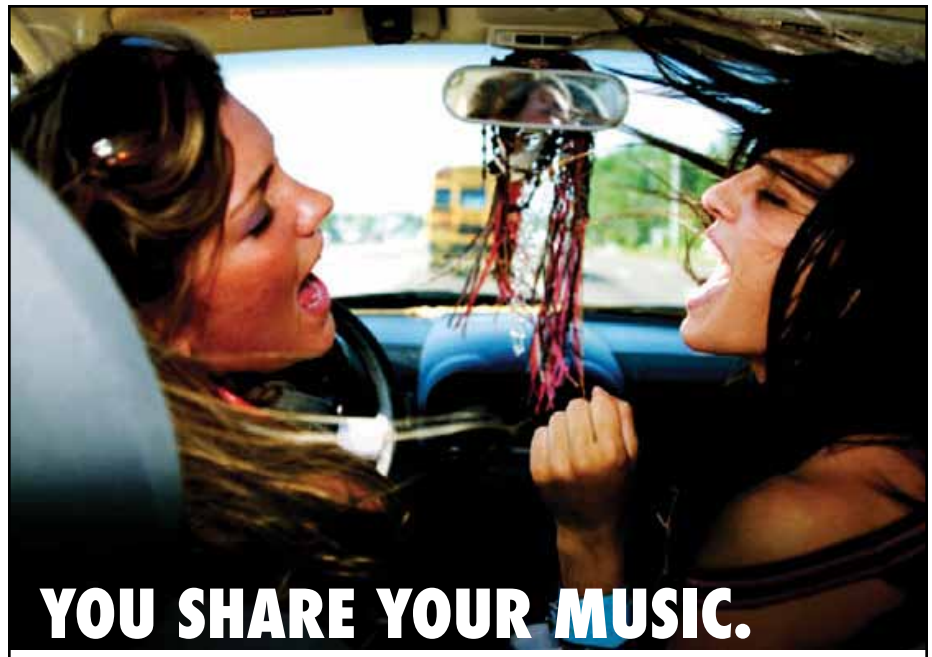

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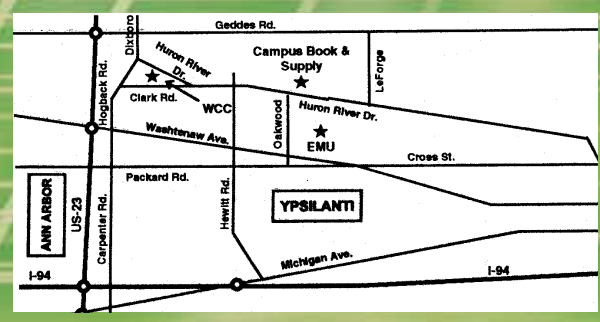

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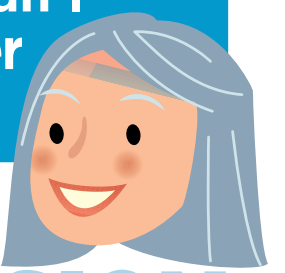
I need a new career, so how do I manage work, school and two active boys at home?

BLENDED

I'm comfortable online and I manage my time well, what's available for me?

ONLINE

I don't like the commute to campus, can I study closer to home?



EXTENSION

As a new student, how can I interact with my instructors and meet new friends?

TRADITIONAL

My Saturdays are usually free, are there classes I can take then?

WEEKEND

I need retraining but my days are spoken for, when can I fit it in?

EVENING

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SITUATION, WCC WILL MAKE COLLEGE WORK FOR YOU.

Mix and match these scheduling options to fit your unique lifestyle.

BLENDED
The perfect balance–online and on campus, in most cases you'll meet in class only once a week.

TRADITIONAL
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ONLINE
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WEEKEND
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EVENING
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